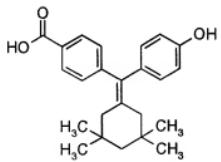


Amendments To The Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. – 25. (Canceled).

26. (Currently Amended) A compound of the formula



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof including salts, solvates, and pharmacologically functional derivatives thereof.

27. (Canceled).

28. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to claim 26, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier , diluent, or excipient.

29. – 39. (Canceled).

40. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutically acceptable salt of claim 26.

41. (Canceled).

42. (Previously Presented) 4-[(4-Hydroxyphenyl)(3,3,5,5-tetramethylcyclohexylidene)methyl]benzoic acid.

43. (New) A method for the treatment of a condition or disease selected from osteoporosis, osteoarthritis, breast cancer, rheumatoid arthritis,

vasomotor symptoms, vulvar vaginal atrophy, and obesity in a mammal in need thereof comprising the administration of a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 26.

44. (New) The method of claim 43 wherein the condition or disorder is breast cancer.

45. (New) The method of claim 43 wherein the condition or disorder is osteoarthritis.

46. (New) The method of claim 43 wherein the condition or disorder is rheumatoid arthritis.

47. (New) The method of claim 43 wherein the condition or disorder is osteoporosis.

48. (New) The method of claim 43 wherein the condition or disorder is osteoporosis.

49. (New) The method of claim 43 wherein the condition or disorder is obesity.

50. (New) A method for the treatment of vasomotor symptoms in a mammal in need thereof comprising the administration of a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 26.

51. (New) A method for the treatment of vulvar vaginal atrophy in a mammal in need thereof comprising the administration of a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 26.

52. (New) A process for the preparation of the compound of the formula of claim 26, comprising the step of reacting methyl 4-[(4-hydroxyphenyl)(3,5,5-tetramethylcyclohexylidene)methyl]benzoate with sodium hydroxide.